



Customer No.: 26308

*AT*  
*ZJW*  
Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: West et al.

Docket No.: 9222.17412-CIP 1

Serial No.: 10/017,685

Examiner: L. Thanh

Filed: 14 December 2001

Group Art Unit: 3763

Title: Systems and Methods Employing a Bite Block Insert for Positioning and Stabilizing External Instruments Deployed in the Body

**AMENDMENT D**  
**SUBMITTED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

*Entered  
AF  
5/10/06*  
Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed October 6, 2005, which was designated as being final.

An automatic three (3) month extension of time to respond, up to and including April 6, 2006, is respectfully requested. The requisite fee accompanies this Amendment.